

Chinese Ribbon Dance

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Chinese Lion Dance

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Chinese Fan Dance

(Teachers: Amanda Lou and Carolyn Hung)

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Chinese Yoyo

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The Cultural Society



Happy Chinese New Year!

Valley Stream South H.S. Cultural Society

The Year of the Rat



Performed At: Valley Stream Henry Waldinger Memorial Library

The **Rat** (Chinese: 鼠) was welcomed in ancient times as a protector and bringer of material prosperity. It is the first of the 12-year cycle of animals which appear in the Chinese zodiac. The Rat is associated with aggression, wealth, charm, and order.

Chinese Ribbon Dance

Chinese dance has a history of over 5000 years and has traditionally been practiced at all levels of society – by farmers, emperors, and warriors. Yanko (ribbon dance) is one of the most theatrical dances in China. Using ribbons, this dance began as a performance for royalty. It later developed into a folk dance that is performed in the streets during harvest festivals and other celebrations.



Chinese Lion Dance

The lion costume may be operated by a single dancer, or more frequently by a pair of dancers. The single dancer springs about while energetically moving and shaking the head and operating the jaws and eyes. The pair of dancers, forming the back and fore legs of the beast, mimic the motions of a single animal. The dance is usually performed as a ceremony to exorcise evil spirits and to summon luck and fortune.



Chinese Fan Dance

Chinese dancers use their body to communicate their thoughts and feeling with ease and grace. Chinese Fan dance is danced for its elegance and beauty. The fan is a common tool used in China and dancing with it celebrates tradition in a beautiful and lyrical way.



Chinese Yo-yo

The Chinese yo-yo is a toy consisting of two equally-sized discs connected with a long axle. The Chinese yo-yo is kept spinning on a string tied to two sticks at its ends. Each stick is held in one hand. In modern times, it is used as a children's toy and as a performance tool in juggling and sometimes in Chinese ethnic dance. The Chinese yo-yo is thousands of years old. It has been adapted in the West as the diabolo.

